

~~may use funds available to the Department in an amount not to exceed fifteen million two hundred thousand dollars (\$15,200,000).~~

~~(b)~~ (a) The Department of Human Resources, Health and Human Services, in conjunction with area mental health programs, shall develop and implement cost containment measures to reduce the cost of direct services. The Department shall develop these strategies to emphasize positive client outcomes through developmental disability long-term managed supports rather than to emphasize process. These measures shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Reduction of those process-oriented tasks required by the State, including, but not limited to, tasks required by the Divisions of: Medical Assistance, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Social Services, Facilities Services, and Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services;
- (2) Single stream funding from all available sources;
- (3) Waivers of federal requirements in order to comply with the federal court order; and
- (4) Review and, if necessary, amendment or repeal of rules that conflict or otherwise interfere with cost containment measures.

~~(c)~~ (b) The Department shall provide to the members of the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Human Resources, and to the Fiscal Research Division a detailed report of the status of development and implementation of cost containment measures required under this section. The report shall address each of the measures listed in subsection (b) of this section, and any other related cost containment measures developed by the Department. The Department shall provide the report on ~~December 1, 1997, and May 1, 1998.~~ May 1, 1999."

Requested by: Representatives Gardner, Cansler, Clary, Howard, Senators Martin of Guilford, Cooper, Dannelly, Phillips, Purcell

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES/REFERRALS/STUDY

Section 12.32A. (a) Section 11.43 of S.L. 1997-443 reads as rewritten:

"Section 11.43. Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the 1997-98 fiscal year and the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the 1998-99 fiscal year shall be allocated based on a plan developed in consultation with the affected divisions within the Department and the North Carolina Interagency Coordinating Council to meet the needs of those children who are on the waiting list for early intervention services. The Department may create up to 41 new positions, as needed, in the Division of Services for the Blind and the Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing to expand early intervention-related preschool ~~services.~~ services for children from birth through five years of age with priority given to children birth through two years of age.

The North Carolina Schools for the Deaf and other agencies providing early intervention services to children from birth through five years of age shall ~~work together to develop procedures to ensure that Beginnings for~~